

Amendments to the Claims: This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ A method for the optical emission spectroscopy of a liquid ~~(301)~~ excited by a pulsed laser ~~(402)~~ focused on its surface, ~~characterized in that the~~ comprising the step of sweeping a zone to be analyzed (304) is swept by a laminar gas flow ~~(309)~~ having sufficient velocity and cross sectional area to eliminate the residues of the a plasma suspended in the gas and resulting from a first ~~pulsed laser~~ laser pulse, before the a next pulsed laser pulse takes place, so that the laminar gas flow creates a containment effect on the ~~free~~ surface of the liquid.
2. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ A method in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that the~~ wherein the velocity of the gas is determined according to at least one of the ~~following properties of the analyzed liquid: its~~ a temperature of the analyzed liquid, its a viscosity of the analyzed liquid, its a flow rate of the analyzed liquid, the a turbulent or laminar nature of its a flow of the analyzed liquid.
3. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ A method in accordance with one of the claims 1 or 2, ~~characterized in that the~~ wherein a cross section swept by the laminar gas flow is determined according to at least one of the ~~following properties: a~~ rate of expansion of the plasma, a rate of recurrence of the laser pulses, an accuracy of the measurement.
4. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ A method in accordance with ~~one of the above claims~~ claims 1 or 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the liquid is flowing in the zone to be analyzed.
5. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ A method in accordance with ~~one of the above claims~~ claims 1 or 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the gas is led into the zone to be analyzed through a conduit ~~(313, 302)~~ surrounding the a conduit (302) of the analyzed liquid.
6. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ A method in accordance with ~~one of the above claims~~ claims 1 or 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the laser beam is inclined in relation to the a plane formed by the surface of the liquid at an angle different from 90°.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ A method in accordance with claim 6, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the laser beam is inclined in relation to the plane formed by the surface of the liquid at an angle greater than 60°.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ A method in accordance with ~~one of the above claims~~ claims 1 or 2, ~~characterized in that the wherein a~~ beam emitted by the liquid after excitation by the laser ~~beam~~ pulse is collected colinearly with the laser ~~beam~~ pulse.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ A method in accordance with ~~one of the above claims~~ claims 1 or 2, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the gas is argon or helium.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~Device~~ A device for the optical emission spectroscopy of a liquid excited by a pulsed laser beam focused on ~~the a~~ surface of ~~this the~~ liquid, ~~characterized in that it comprises~~ comprising:

a laser ~~capable of generating~~ configured to generate coherent light pulses of a power density of at least 1 Gw/cm²,

means ~~capable of~~ for generating a laminar jet of liquid to be analyzed over a length of at least one cm,

means ~~capable of~~ for generating a laminar gas jet parallel to the surface of the liquid to be analyzed, and in contact with ~~it the surface of the liquid~~, eliminating ~~the residues of the a~~ plasma suspended in the gas and resulting from a first ~~pulsed laser~~ laser pulse from the pulsed laser,

means ~~capable of~~ for focusing the laser beam in ~~the a~~ zone to be analyzed on the surface of the liquid jet to be analyzed,

means ~~capable of~~ for collecting ~~the light resulting from the an~~ interaction of the light pulses of the laser with the liquid jet to be analyzed,

a spectroscope ~~capable of operating~~ configured to operate within ~~the~~ a range of frequencies at which are found ~~the~~ emission lines of the liquid to be analyzed, and being equipped so as to receive the interaction light collected by ~~the~~ a beam of optical fibers,

means ~~capable of~~ for making the liquid to be analyzed circulate in the form of a jet, and

means ~~capable of~~ for making the gas circulate in the form of a jet before flowing tangentially to the liquid to be analyzed.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~Device~~ A device in accordance with claim 10, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

-the means ~~capable of~~ for collecting the emission light of the liquid to be analyzed is such that ~~this~~ the light is collected colinearly with the excitation laser beam,

~~and in that~~ the device further comprises an impermeable enclosure in which are found the liquid to be analyzed and the means ~~capable of~~ for generating the laminar gas jet, and

the colinearity of the excitation laser beam and the direction of the collected light ~~making~~ make possible the use of only one port of the enclosure for the laser beam and the collected light.